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In reply refer to:
Burial and Cremation laws of Delaware

Senator Herman Holloway
Legislative Hall
Dover, Delaware

Dear Senator Holloway:

This letter is in reference to our telephone conversation of January 30th concerning the burial and cremation laws of Delaware.

As promised, I am enclosing a memorandum in which we set forth our view of Delaware law on the subject of burial and cremation of bodies in Delaware in cases where the person's death occurred outside the state. I have also enclosed copies of the relevant Delaware statutes. As I mentioned during my appearance before the Delaware Senate on January 25th, our interpretation of Delaware law differs from that of Delaware Secretary of Health and Social Services Patricia Schramm. Secretary Schramm's views are contained in her December 1, 1978 memorandum to Governor du Pont. A copy of this memorandum is attached for your information and convenient reference. Please note that I am forwarding a copy of this letter and memorandum to Senator Robert Berdt who also expressed an interest in the relevant Delaware laws.

On January 25th one Senator mentioned that a Delaware statute specifically provides for burial or cremation of vetrans in Delaware. I am enclosing for your information a list of veterans and their dependents whom we have identified to date among the Jonestown deceased. I would appreciate receiving a copy of this statute for our files.

I would also appreciate receiving a copy of the transcript of the January 25th Senate hearing for our records. Thank you again for giving the Department the opportunity to explain to the Senate the Department's past and present willingness to fully cooperate with and keep informed Delaware officials regarding the disposition of the Jonestown deceased.

Thank you for your personal cooperation. If you have any questions concerning any of the enclosures or any other matter, please do not hesitiate to contact me or Mr. Bruce E. Dozier on (202) 632-3712.

Sincerely,

Alan A. Gise
Deputy Assistant Secretary
For Overseas Citizens Services

BY:_____
Michael J. White
Attorney-Advisor
for Overseas Consular Services

cc The Honorable Robert Berdt

CA/OCS/CCS/AF:BDozier:gc 2/5/79